

# POLITICAL ECONOMY

## *Illustrated*



Whether or not one agrees with the economic theories of Karl Marx this much is certain. His book "Das Capital" made a big noise. It is worth noting that a third of the world is living under the crimson banner of Socialism. Left-Socialist and Communist Parties are to be found in every land of the earth. Yet, over a hundred years ago Socialists were a mere handful.

Marx, for the first time, proved that society operated according to laws like everything else in this very real world. He theorized that Capitalism would pass away and a new and higher form of society called Socialism would take its place. Marx wasn't in a trance or gazing at tea leaves when he wrote that. It is happening before our eyes.

The world is moving. If one cares to understand how and why it moves one need only to open the books on Marxism-Leninism. Maybe this little cartoon booklet will induce someone to do that.



**PRIMITIVE COMMUNISM** WAS THE FIRST FORM OF SOCIETY. PRIMITIVE PEOPLE SHARED IN COMMON THE SPOILS OF THE CHASE. THE RESULT OF THEIR LABOR BARELY SUFFICED TO SUSTAIN LIFE.



**SLAVE SOCIETY** DEVELOPED WHEN OUR FOREBEARS PRODUCED A SURPLUS AND BEGAN EXCHANGING IT. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT THE SLAVE PRODUCED AND WHAT HE CONSUMED ENRICHED THE SLAVE OWNER.



**THE STATE** DEVELOPED TO PROTECT  
THE WEALTH AND PRIVILEGES OF THE  
DOMINANT SLAVE OWNING CLASS.



**RELIGION** WAS USED TO CLOAK  
AND JUSTIFY THIS EXPLOITATION.

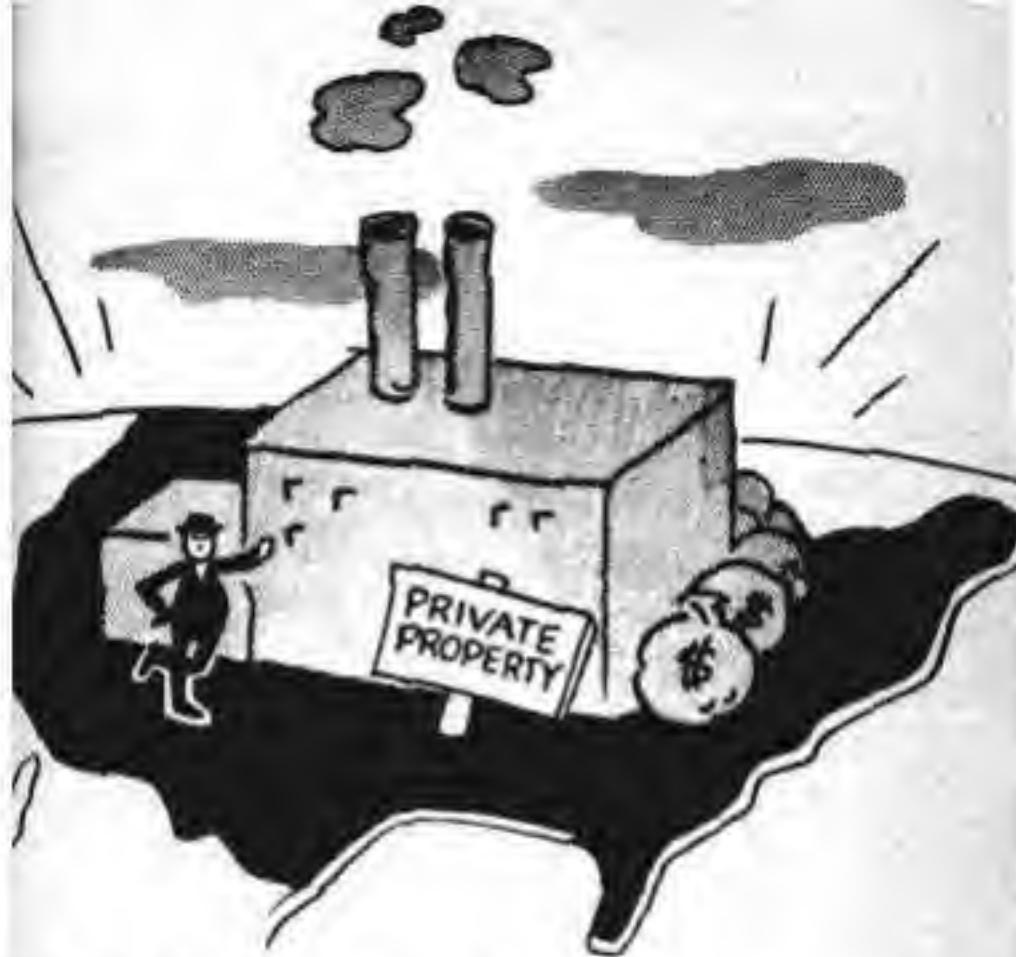


## FEUDALISM

CAME INTO BEING  
AS NEW  
PRODUCTIVE  
FORCES AND  
FARMING METHODS DEVELOPED. SERFS  
REPLACED SLAVES AS THE EXPLOITED  
CLASS. A SERF WORKED SO MANY DAYS  
FOR HIMSELF AND SO MANY TO ENRICH  
THE LORD OF THE LANDED ESTATE.



**CAPITALISM** WAS THE NEXT FORM OF SOCIETY. WITH THE GROWTH OF TRADE AND NEW FORCES OF PRODUCTION DEVELOPED, THE CAPITALIST REPLACED THE LAND OWNER AS THE RULING CLASS. SOCIETY WAS NOW DIVIDED BASICALLY INTO THE CAPITALISTS AND THE WORKERS.



**THE CAPITALIST CLASS** IS A CLASS OF PERSONS POSSESSED OF WEALTH IN MONEY FORM AND OWNING THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION WHICH ARE SET TO WORK BY HIRING WAGE WORKERS.



**THE WORKING CLASS** IS THE  
PROPERTYLESS CLASS, FREE, YET COMPELLED  
BY NECESSITY TO SELL ITS LABOR-POWER  
TO THE CAPITALIST.



MADE BY  
HUMAN LABOR

FOR EXCHANGE



USE-VALUE



**COMMODITIES** ARE GOODS MADE  
BY HUMAN LABOR, FOR EXCHANGE  
AND POSSESSING USE-VALUE.



**THE VALUE OF A COMMODITY**  
IS DETERMINED BY THE AMOUNT OF  
SOCIALLY NECESSARY LABOR TIME  
REQUIRED FOR ITS PRODUCTION.



**LABOR-POWER IS A COMMODITY.**  
THE WORKER SELLS HIS POWER TO  
WORK, OR LABOR-POWER. WAGES  
ARE THE PRICE HE RECEIVES.



## **" THE VALUE OF LABOR-POWER**

**IS DETERMINED BY THE VALUE  
OF THE NECESSITIES REQUIRED  
TO PRODUCE, DEVELOP, MAINTAIN  
AND PERPETUATE THE LABOR-POWER**

**( MARX )**

FACTORY NO.1  
OUT



**SURPLUS VALUE** IS THE VALUE THE  
WORKER PRODUCES OVER AND ABOVE  
THE VALUE OF HIS LABOR-POWER.



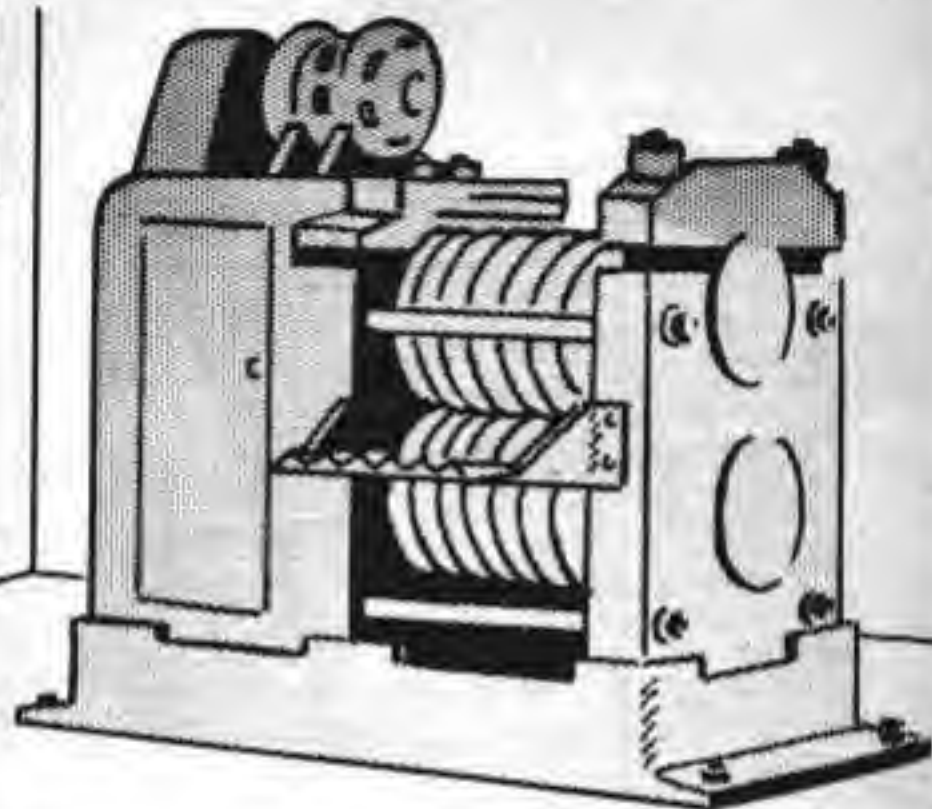
**THE CLASS STRUGGLE** IS  
THAT RIVALRY THAT TAKES PLACE  
BETWEEN THE CAPITALIST AND  
THE WORKER OVER WHO GETS  
THE VALUES CREATED BY THE  
WORKER'S LABOR.



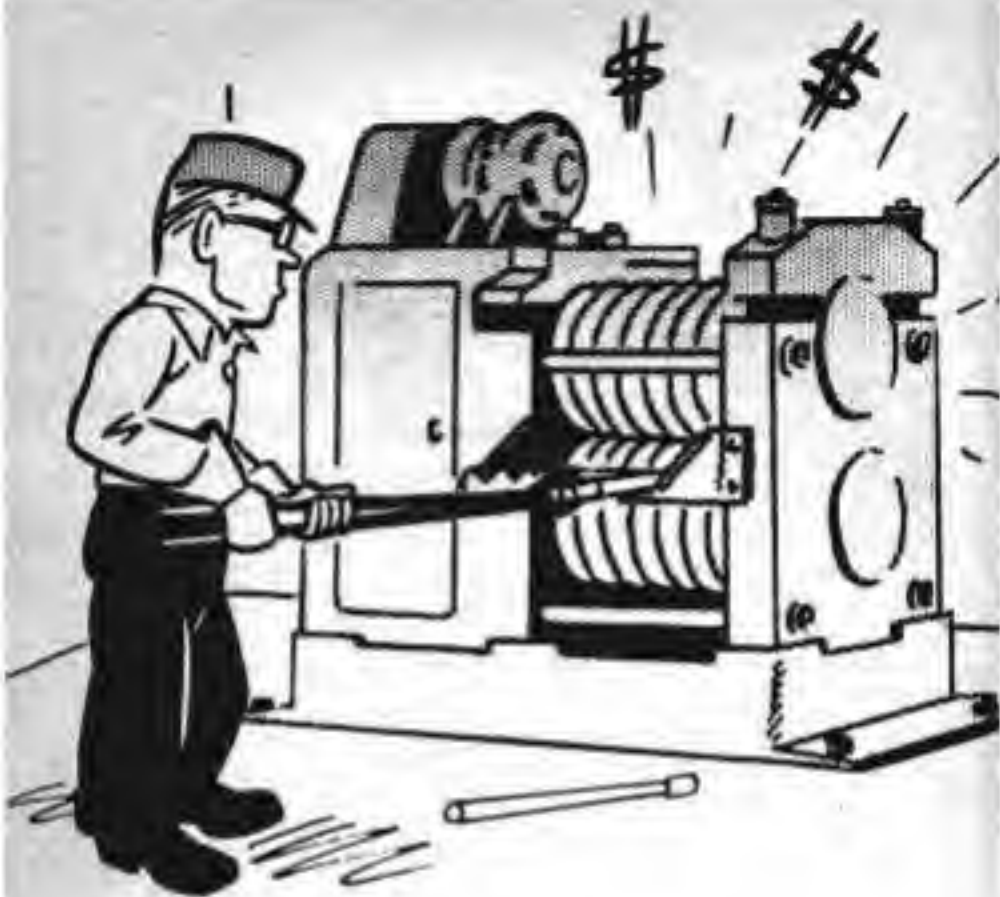
**STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS**  
ARE THE MOST DIRECT AND OPEN  
EXPRESSION OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE.



**CAPITAL** IS WEALTH THAT HAS BEEN  
CREATED BY PAST LABOR AND WHICH  
PRODUCES MORE WEALTH WHEN ACTED  
UPON BY CURRENT LABOR.



**CONSTANT CAPITAL** IS  
EVERYTHING THE CAPITALIST  
SPENDS ON COMMODITIES, OTHER  
THAN LABOR-POWER, THAT GOES  
INTO THE PRODUCTIVE PROCESS.



**VARIABLE CAPITAL** IS CAPITAL INVESTED IN LABOR-POWER. WITH THE MACHINES AND RAW MATERIALS THE WORKER PRODUCES A VALUE GREATER THAN THE VALUE OF HIS LABOR-POWER. THIS IS WHERE THE CAPITALIST GETS HIS PROFIT.



**MONOPOLIES** ARISE AS CAPITAL  
AND PRODUCTION CONCENTRATE  
INTO FEWER HANDS.



*The*  
**RESERVE ARMY OF UNEMPLOYED**  
IS FORMED AS THE WORKING CLASS  
GROWS FASTER THAN CAPITALISM CAN  
CREATE THE NECESSARY JOBS.



## **INTEREST**

**IS PART OF THE SURPLUS  
VALUE THE CAPITALIST PAYS  
THE LENDER OF BORROWED  
MONEY CAPITAL.**



**BANKS** BRING TOGETHER SURPLUS FUNDS AND MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE FOR INTEREST. THEY LEND OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY TO MAKE MONEY FOR THEMSELVES!



**GROUND RENT** IS PART OF THE SURPLUS VALUE CREATED IN AGRICULTURE. IT IS UNEARNED INCOME BECAUSE THE LANDOWNER DOES NO WORK, HE RECEIVES HIS RENT BY REASON OF HIS LEGAL TITLE TO THE LAND.



**MAXIMUM PROFIT**  
IS THE SINGLE AIM OF CAPITAL  
PRODUCTION.



## AN ECONOMIC CRISIS

OCCURS WHEN MORE GOODS ARE PRODUCED THAN THE CAPITALISTS CAN PROFITABLY SELL. THEY SHUT DOWN THEIR FACTORIES AND CONSUMERS ARE LAID OFF!



**IMPERIALISM** IS THE LAST STAGE OF CAPITALISM. THE CAPITALISTS ARE FORCED TO EXTEND THEIR CONTROL OVER INVESTMENT AREAS BEYOND THEIR NATIONAL BOUNDRIES.



**PEACE  
DEMANDS**

**WARS** ARE CAUSED  
BECAUSE MONOPOLY  
CAPITALISM MUST  
EXPAND IN A WORLD  
ALREADY DIVIDED  
UP. A THIRD WORLD  
WAR CAN BE HELD

IN CHECK BY PEACE FORCES, HOWEVER.



**FASCISM** IS "THE OPEN TERRORIST  
DICTATORSHIP OF THE MOST  
REACTIONARY, MOST CHAUVINISTIC, AND  
MOST IMPERIALIST ELEMENTS OF FIN-  
ANCE CAPITAL." *DIMITROV*. THE DRIVE  
TO FASCISM (MCCARTHYISM) CAN BE  
STOPPED BY MASS PRESSURE.



**INDOCTRINATION AND CONCEALMENT OF FACTS** ARE USED TO MAKE THE PEOPLE CAPITALIST MINDED. THE CAPITALISTS CONTROL ALL THE MAJOR MEANS OF INFLUENCING PUBLIC OPINION.



**JIM CROW AND SEGREGATION**  
ARE ECONOMIC IN ORIGIN. VESTED  
INTERESTS PROFIT BY THE LOW  
WAGES AND HIGH RENTS FORCED ON  
NEGROES. JIM CROW ALSO TENDS TO  
DIVIDE THE WORKING CLASS.

**PEOPLE'S  
FACTORY**



**SOCIALISM** IS THE NEXT FORM OF SOCIETY, UNDER SOCIALISM ALL THE MAJOR MEANS OF PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION ARE IN THE HANDS OF THE PEOPLE. PRODUCTION IS CARRIED ON FOR SOCIAL USE INSTEAD OF PRIVATE PROFIT.



**THE SOVIET UNION** WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO BUILD SOCIALISM. SINCE THEN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES YUGOSLAVIA AND THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC HAVE TAKEN THE SAME PATH.